GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department - Diversion of 16.57 Ha of forest land (i.e.1.14 Ha. in Chittoor (West) Division, 11.00 Ha. in Kadapa Division and 4.43 Ha. in Proddatur (WL) Division) for laying 16'' dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamilnadu passing through Andhra Pradesh at Km.0.00 to 619.7 Km via Chittoor & Cuddapah Districts, in favour of General Manger, M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bangalore – Final (stage-II) approval accorded

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ENVIRONEMNT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.74 **Dated.31.10.2022**

Read the following:-

1) From PCCF & HoFF, Lr.No.6877/2017/FCA-1, dt:09.07.2018.
2) State Govt.Lr.No.EFS01-12021/79/Section.II/2018, EFS&T (Sec.II) Dept., dt.25.07.2018.
3) From GoI, MoEF& C.C, Lr.No.4-APC066/2018-CHN/1447, dt.10-09-2018.
4) From PCCF & HoFF, A.P.,Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15026/2/2018-FCASEC-PCCF/FCA-1, dt:21.06.2022.
5) State Govt.Lr.No.3211/Sec.II/2018, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dt.19.07.2022.
6) From the GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada, Lr.F.No.4-APC066/2018-CHN/544, Dt.22.08.2022

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ORDER:

In the letter first read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 16.57 Ha of forest land (i.e.1.14 Ha. in Chittoor (West) Division, 11.00 Ha. in Kadapa Division and 4.43 Ha. in Proddatur (WL) Division) for laying 16'' dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu passing through Andhra Pradesh at Km.0.00 to 619.7 Km via Chittoor & Cuddapah Districts, in favour of General Manger, M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bangalore and requested to forward it to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office, Chennai for consideration of the proposal.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai, for its approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. In the letter 3rd read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai, have accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions stipulated therein.

4. In the letter 4th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, has furnished the compliance report on the Stage-I conditions and requested to consider and forward it to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada for according Stage-II approval for the proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Accordingly, State Government forwarded the compliance report to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada for according Final(Stage-II) approval for the proposal vide letter in the 5th read above.

5. In the letter 6th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, have accorded Final (Stage-II) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 16.57 Ha of forest land (i.e.1.14 Ha. in Chittoor (West) Division, 11.00 Ha. in Kadapa Division and 4.43 Ha. in Proddatur (WL) Division) for laying 16'' dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu passing through Andhra Pradesh at Km.0.00 to 619.7 Km via Chittoor & Cuddapah Districts, in favour of General Manger, M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bangalore, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein.

6. After careful examination of the proposal, the Government hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for diversion of 16.57 Ha of forest land (i.e.1.14 Ha. in Chittoor (West) Division, 11.00 Ha. in Kadapa Division and 4.43 Ha. in Proddatur (WL) Division) for laying 16'' dia petroleum product pipeline from

(Contd.P.-2)

Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu passing through Andhra Pradesh at Km.0.00 to 619.7 Km via Chittoor & Cuddapah Districts in favour of General Manger, M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bangalore, subject to certain conditions as stipulated therein:-

(i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.

(ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered, at an interval of 20 meters, at the cost of the user agency.

(iii) The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over i) an extent of **22.00 ha** of degraded forest identified in Compt.No 567, Kanumalopalli Extension RF, Kanumalopalli Beat of Bhakarapeta Section of Kadapa Range, ii) an extent of **8.86 ha** of degraded forest land identified in Compt.No 250, Kavalakuntla South RF, Siddavaram Beat of Porumamilla Range and iii) an extent of **2.30 ha** of degraded forest identified in Compt.No 241 of Vovilathota RF, Santhapeta Beat of Punganur RF of Chittoor West Division, **from the amount already been realized from the user agency;**

(iv) The identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;

(v) The State Forest Department shall undertake afforestation along the periphery of the pipeline over an extent of 3.45 ha as reported **from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;**

(vi) No additional or new path shall be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;

(vii) As proposed the State Forest Department shall ensure to plant adequate number **of Red Sanders** trees to compensate for the felling of the species involved in the project;

(viii) Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the user agency;

(ix) **The User Agency and the State Forest Department shall strictly comply with the recommendations of the SC-NBWL at the cost of the project. The compliance report on conditions / recommendation / mitigation measures etc., of the SC NBWL shall be submitted to the IRO Vijayawada for monitoring purpose and same shall be submitted to the Wildlife Division of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi.**

(x) Trees standing in the diverted area shall be felled strictly as per requirement with prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;

(xi) The muck generated in the earth cutting, if any, will be disposed off at designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be disposed off in the forest area;

(xii) The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

(xiii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;

(xiv) Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the user agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;

(Contd.P.-3)

(xv) **The user agency shall erect visible signage board at specific places along the pipe line;**

(xvi) The user agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling;

(xvii) All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible instead of resorting to felling, at the cost of the user agency;

(xviii) The pipeline shall be laid 1.2 meter below the ground level and after laying down of pipeline, the ground shall be leveled back;

(xix) The user agency shall carry out regular monitoring of the gas pipeline to be laid and submit a monthly monitoring report to the concerned DFOs for record and information;

(xx) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **16.57** ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;

(xxi) The user agency and the State Forest Department shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;

(xxii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency;

(xxiii) The progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFOs of Chittoor (West), Kadapa and Proddatur (WL) Divisions in part II of the proposal shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office to upload the same in the web portal;

(xxiv) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions in Ministry's guidelines.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)
NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPCIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

Copy to:
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Regional Office, 1st and 2nd Floors,
Handloom Export promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034.

The Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada-520010

The General Manager, M/s.HPCL, No.332, 2nd Floor, Darus Salam Building,
Queens Road, Bangalore, Karnataka.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER